I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service as Express Mail, Airbill No. ER 147059341 US, in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the date shown below.

Dated: May 2, 2003

Signature:

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TECH CENTER 1600/2900 Docket No.: HO-P02046US1

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of: Marie-Claude Gingras, et al

Application No.: 10/021,509

Filed: December 7, 2001

Group Art Unit: N/A

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

For: TREM-1 SPLICE VARIANT FOR USE AND

MODIFYING IMMUNE RESPONSES

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FIRST PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

MAY 0 7 2003

Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment Commissioner for Patents Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

TECH CENTER 1600/2900

Dear Sir:

Prior to examination on the merits, please amend the above-identified U.S. patent application as follows: